

By the students, faculty, & alumni/ae
of Wesleyan University

HERMES

STUDENTS ENTER TRUSTEE MEETING

Union Workers, Student Coalition Join in Struggle

by Heather Rhoads and Andy Russell

Fifteen Wesleyan students entered the Board of Trustees meeting Nov. 18, marking a huge success for campus activists. For hours every night throughout the week building up to the action, about fifty representatives from various student groups met and formed into a coalition to demand student empowerment.

The students expressed their solidarity with the United Mine Workers of Amer-

ica, whose local members were also present at the rally. UMWA is on strike against the Pittston Coal Group in southwestern Virginia and came to Downey to express their outrage at newly elected Trustee Gerald Baliles (lame duck Governor of Virginia).

Baliles, under the guise of remaining "neutral," has used the Virginia state police to uphold the "rights" of the Pittston Co. to employ scab labor to mine the

coal and to brutalize the strikers. UMWA has taken on a campaign of nonviolent civil disobedience to protest both the unfair labor practices of Pittston and the blatantly pro-management nature of the Virginia law.

Among those who spoke on the labor struggles were Rudy Buck, of the East Hartford local of the International Association of Machinists (IAM); Pat Spears, UMWA representative in Greenwich, CT (the location of Pittston's headquarters); Phil Wilayto of the United Labor Action; and Connie Holt of Hartford's Local 217 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees. All of the speakers praised the students efforts and expressed appreciation of their support for the labor movement.

The night before the campus-wide rally, coalition members met and rallied outside South College after a representative group of fifteen met with President Chace and the officers of the Board. At that point, the students were prepared to go to any length, even risking arrest, to enter Saturday's meeting.

From South College, the students led a march around campus, from MoCon to West College to Butterfield, publicizing the next day's action. About 30 students then participated in a nonviolence training workshop to prepare for possible arrests.

At 8:30 a.m. Saturday, coalition members gathering outside Downey were



greeted with white barricades typically used for police lines and the news (a relief to many) that 15 representatives would be allowed into the meeting for a few minutes. This was obviously a compromise on the part of the Administration, who had claimed the night before that students would not be able to enter. In the light of the arrest earlier this fall at the smokeout, the University probably wanted to avoid confrontation and further bad press.

An effective rally was held for almost four hours outside the building, with speakers from each of the student groups discussing their individual and collective demands as well as local Unionists who expressed solidarity with the students.

The coalition made decisions through consensus, an alternative process to voting where all people present can have equal input and unanimous agreements are reached. At the civil disobedience preparation meeting, they broke up into

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STUDENTS AND WORKERS UNITE:

About 30 Middletown Unionists joined a crowd of over 200 Wesleyan student activists for a rally outside Downey House Nov. 18 during the 2nd Trustee meeting of the year. Protesters demanded the resignation of Governor Baliles in addition to a wide range of institutional changes.

Save WestCo

by Jennifer Sheffield

In response to charges of harboring a drug culture, West College residents have recently organized to gather community support and to present a more accurate picture of its role on campus.

After the marijuana "Smokeout" at McConaughy Dining Hall on October 27, *The Hartford Courant* ran a flood of articles questioning Wesleyan's drug policy and the character of its students. Soon rumors were in the air that the trustees were planning to dissolve West College.

The administration's official policy is to treat students as adults who will behave responsibly and take consequences for their actions. When the school's image is at stake, however, the tune changes a bit and the administration feels it must take measures to protect the University.

WestCo was singled out because of the connection made between the Smokeout and the WestCo-sponsored happening of Duke Day on October 28. It is true that the Smokeout is traditionally a precursor to Duke Day, but it is neither sponsored nor controlled by West College.

The Wesleyan trustees quelled some people's fears at their November 11 meeting when they stated they were not considering any immediate action regarding WestCo and that their current concern was Wesleyan's drug policy as a whole. Yet WestCo is presently under review by the Student Affairs Committee, so the issue has not yet come to any resolution.

Many feel that WestCo is being made a scapegoat, because the administration

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FEMINISTS AWAKE!

Abortion Activists Call for Pro-Choice Legislators

by Brian Kassof and Heather Rhoads

Until recently, the majority of pro-choice Americans have been asleep at the wheel. Convinced that the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision had forever and irrevocably guaranteed the right of women to safe, legal abortions, many forgot about the issue.

Roe v. Wade did not grant the women's movement all the rights they were demanding; it was a compromise that left a lot of women unprotected, especially the economically disadvantaged and the young. And for the last sixteen years, anti-feminists have been slowly stripping women of their reproductive rights, making it harder and harder for young and low income women to obtain legal abortions.

Finally, this spring, the nation started to wake up to the reproductive rights struggle, but only when it became possible that the Supreme Court might overturn Roe v. Wade. The National Organization for Women (NOW) scheduled a big rally in Washington D.C. to protest for abortion rights. They managed to get over a half-million people there, but they then had little idea what to do with them.

The April 9 March was a logistical nightmare. And worse, the only message NOW sent out that day was "Save Roe v. Wade, and everything will be alright." The mainstream pro-choice movement was obviously on the defensive; feminists were spurred awake only in response to right-wing woman-bashing. There was little mention of funding for abortions or



FUN IN DC:

Over 400 Wesleyan students participated in the Nov. 12 Mobilization to Washington, DC to show their support for abortion rights. Wesleyan's Students for Reproductive Choice (SRC) organized five busloads and flaunted a massive banner around capitol hill.

the elimination of restrictions such as parental consent law or clinic regulations. There were few demands for other reproductive rights such as comprehensive family planning programs or free birth control.

Eight months later, in November, NOW along with Planned Parenthood and National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) held another rally. This time they were smarter. The D.C. mobilization was only one of a series of events held

across the nation. It was only a rally, not a "march." The sound system was much better. And instead of a bunch of celebrities, the speakers were actually politicians and leaders of the women's movement.

And even the message was improved somewhat. Realizing they couldn't have much influence on the Supreme Court, NOW turned its sights on the realm of politics. If Roe v. Wade itself is over-

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US and Soviet Students Hold Summit at Wes

by Kevin Greiner

Soviet and U.S. Students gathered November 17-19 for a Student Summit at Wesleyan to "present a vision of a new era in U.S.-Soviet relations."

This sentiment and many others emerged out of meetings throughout the week-end which focused on topics such as disarmament, the environment, gender issues, the United Nations, and youth and media exchanges. The participants concluded the three-day summit by drafting a declaration, in Russian and English, of student solidarity which calls for better cooperation and continued peace between their respective countries. Organizers plan to send the document to their governmental leaders and to student and peace groups in both countries.

About 25 Soviet exchange students studying at 15 colleges and universities in the United States and 40 Americans participated in the Summit, sponsored by a student group called Wesleyan Students for World Peace. The group had been in contact with Soviet exchange students since the beginning of the semester. Organizers have been planning for the Summit since last Spring.

"We call upon the people of our nations, President Gorbachev, and President Bush to respond to the radically new political climate," wrote the students in the document's preamble. "As the walls of the old have crumbled, we the youth must be the masons of the future."

Proposals in the document include increased bilateral efforts in disarmament and arms control, including a prohibition of space-based military systems and a comprehensive nuclear test ban, an

increase in cooperative environmental research, and the creation of a strengthened U.N. environmental organization.

The students also called for a transference of funds and resources from the military to productive peaceful uses which will combat hunger, poverty, and disease to build worldwide prosperity.

The students called for the abolishment of restrictions on student travel and the development of media exchanges between both countries. The document also urges the people of both countries to raise their awareness of gender issues.

The tone of the Summit was one of concern mixed with optimism about the future. "We need to have these types of exchanges and show this solidarity between students from our countries," said Mikhail Kalinichev, a student from the Tbilisi State University in Soviet Georgia studying at Wesleyan this year. "We are the future of our countries."

Most participants felt that while the declaration was a very important accomplishment, the fact that students from both countries could simply come together, become friends, and share views was perhaps the most exciting result of the week-end.

"No one will think of U.S. students as anything but friends, and I am sure the students from the U.S. feel the same way towards the Soviets," said Kalinichev. "We considered these different problems and found that our goals are common."

Eric Dusansky, 21, one of the Wesleyan organizers of the Summit, stated that he was also surprised at how easy it was to reach consensus between

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FIG. 46. HERMES KILLS ARGUS

by Alexandra Ringe

Famous for his wiles and eloquence, Hermes (Mercury in Roman mythology) was a god of diverse functions; he invented the lyre, he served as the herald and messenger for the gods, he was the divine keeper of the herds, he led souls to Hades, he helped travellers, he presided over athletic games, and he was the patron of merchants, thieves, and rogues.

There are many myths which include Hermes and his adventures, but one is distinct from the rest in its relevance to this periodical:

One day Hera, Zeus' wife, gazed at the sky and, noticing a thick cloud cover, figured that Zeus was trying to deceive her, that he was engaged in some illicit activity behind one of the clouds. Of course, she was right. Hera moved to pull the clouds away, but Zeus became aware of Hera's presence just in time to change Io, the woman with whom he was cavorting, into a cow, a beautiful cow, but a cow nevertheless. As soon as Hera spotted her husband reclining on the grass next to this creature, she knew what was going on. Instead of accusing Zeus, she compli-

mented him on the cow's looks and asked him to give the cow to her as a present. Naturally, Zeus did not want to relinquish his mistress to his wife, but he could not refuse her such an insignificant gift as livestock without incriminating himself.

Knowing that Zeus would try to take Io back, Hera entrusted the cow to Argus and ordered him to watch her at all times. This was an appropriate task for Argus, for he had eyes all over his body. Zeus then sent Hermes to rescue Io.

Hermes disguised himself as a shepherd and approached Argus. He played his syrinx, a musical instrument, and told stories in an attempt to lull Argus to sleep. Argus managed to keep at least two of his eyes open until Hermes began a particularly long and tiresome tale. Argus nodded off completely; all of his eyes finally shut. Hermes promptly killed him and freed Io.

Relate this myth to the Wesleyan press as you will, but keep in mind that, as a collective, the Hermes staff does not condone violence or boredom as justifiable means to an end. †



deadline for the next issue:
Wednesday, December 13

What we are:

The Hermes is in our fifteenth year of publication at Wesleyan, and we remain New England's longest running alternative college periodical. Hermes is a collectively run progressive/radical semi-monthly newspaper; our articles cover a range of socially responsible, leftist viewpoints. We provide a thought-provoking forum for major political, social, and campus issues.

There are no hierarchical positions on the Hermes staff; those who work on the newspaper comprise the Hermes collective which makes all decisions through consensus. Anyone interested in the Hermes is welcome to help with writing articles, taking photos, or working on production. †



Meetings:

Hermes is always looking for people interested in helping out with writing articles, taking photos or working on production. No previous newspaper experience is necessary, and it's not necessary to make a lengthy commitment to the group.

Official Hermes meetings are held every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Hermes office, 2nd floor of the Housing Office (190 High Street). We are also starting Hermes co-op dinner Wednesday nights at 6 p.m.; contact Erin Kelly for details (638-0528). †

HERMESFOLK

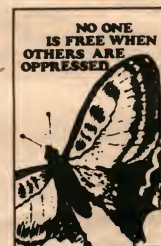
Alexandra Ringe
Brian Shott
Brian Kassof
Caroline Lee
David Morrison
Erin Kelly
Eve Goldberg
Hadley Gustafson

Heather Rhoads
Jean Gibbons
Jennifer Sheffield
Jonathan Lipkin
Kevin Greiner
Laurel Stegina
Neil deMause
Todd Shepard



Contributions:

All submissions: articles, artwork, photos, and letters to the collective should be dropped in the manila envelope on the door of the Hermes office or mailed to Hermes, c/o WSA, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT 06457. If you have questions or would like to talk to a collective member about an article, feel free to call (ext. 2463) or drop by the office during meeting times. †



Subscriptions:

We will gladly mail out Hermes to friends, relatives, alums, faculty, students away for the year, and others! A suggested donation for a full year's subscription to Hermes (10 issues) is \$10. Exchanges with other publications are welcomed. Please make checks out to Hermes, c/o WSA. †

Wes Hosts SOAR Conference

by Kate Lewis

While many Wesleyan students were in Washington, DC, for the pro-choice mobilization two weeks ago, over 400 students and faculty from colleges and universities around New England came here to Wesleyan to participate in the SOAR (Society Organized Against Racism) conference.

SOAR was established in 1981 and now includes member schools such as Wesleyan, Connecticut College, Tufts University, and Fitchburg State College. The Society tries to hold both fall and spring conferences and is working to expand nationwide.

The conference participants arrived on Nov. 10 and were welcomed by the Cardinal Sinners, Wesleyan's all-women's a cappella singing group; various Wesleyan representatives; and Harold "Cap" Smith, the president of SOAR, Inc. Later, participants separated into small groups to compare and discuss people's first awareness of race differences and their first experiences, as observer or victim, with racism.

Many students had first come in contact with a racially integrated community only when they entered college, and groups discussed the ways this environment affected personal racial relationships. Personal experiences with race issues ranged from one man's realization when he was very young that all the kids on television and in cartoons were white to a Jewish man's experience of unexpectedly finding himself in a predominantly anti-Semitic community or to the anger of a woman of color at people making her an "example" of her race and asking her specific and sometimes offensive questions about her culture.

At dinner, President William Chace

SOCIETY
ORGANIZED



AGAINST
RACISM

IN NEW ENGLAND HIGHER EDUCATION, INC.

UNITING VOICES: FROM DISCORD
TO RACIAL HARMONY

and Associate Dean and Registrar Michael Young gave remarks. The keynote speaker was Dr. Arnold L. Mitchem, executive director of the National Council of Educational Opportunity Associations. After the dinner, there was a time for the colleges to compare steps taken on their campuses against racism, and this was followed by several social events.

Saturday morning each student took part in two work sessions discussing specific topics. Students chose from among fifteen different subjects addressing such issues as developing antiracism policies; approaching "ism's" when they overlap (e.g. racism with feminism with classism); building ties to work against racism college to college, student to student, student to faculty and staff; etc.

The conference ended with skits by groups from Wesleyan, Trinity and Manhattanville. The skits depicted past or potential incidents of racism on campuses and stereotypes held by different races about each other. The final performances were a concert by Wesleyan's Ebony Songers and a rap by two Wesleyan students, giving an entertaining plug for social equality in all forms.

Cynthia Maceda, one of the conference's organizers, said that according to the final student evaluations, Wesleyan students who took part enjoyed talking to students from the other schools, particularly liked the group performances at the end, and "were glad to see faculty and administrators from other schools there and participating."

Mauricio Baker, another Wesleyan organizer, was impressed by the "pretty positive feedback" but noted that many students would have wanted the conference to last longer than the day and a half allotted. ☺

El Salvador and the U.S.—Part I

by Brian Shott

On November 11th the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) battled the Salvadoran Army in one of the largest uprisings in recent years in El Salvador. For about two weeks the rebels fought government forces in San Salvador, the capital, and other major cities across the country. The army and the rebels suffered heavy casualties, and hundreds of civilians were killed and thousands more injured.

Most civilians were killed by U.S. supplied bombs, bullets and rockets fired from soldiers on foot and in helicopters. Attacks were directed towards heavily populated residential areas where the rebels were suspected of hiding.

The fighting is not an isolated, random event, and must be placed within the context of El Salvador's history and the major influence of the United States in the region.

In the United States, the mainstream media has failed to provide even the most rudimentary analysis of the social and political situation in El Salvador. Readers have been left to puzzle over strange names and acronyms, widely differing ideologies, and contradictory interpretations of the situation from various sources within and without El Salvador.

The few detailed examinations in the media concentrate on military tactics and strategies and their efficacy rather than the long-term class conflicts in the region

and the oppressive nature of U.S. involvement in Central America.

"Salvador War: Missed Opportunities on Both Sides," reads a headline in the *New York Times* of November 26th. This is no study of missed opportunities for justice in El Salvador; rather, it is an analysis of military blunders.

"The Salvadoran Army defeated the guerrillas in the battle for the cities but missed an opportunity to destroy a decade-old enemy," laments *Times* reporter Bernard E. Trainor in the issue. Having reduced the conflict to a mere ten years, Trainor throws all attempts to understand the issue aside and writes with the detached objectivity of a judge at a boxing match: "...the army and the guerrillas fought equally well. The Government soldiers...welcomed the opportunity to meet the guerrillas head on....The guerrillas, for their part, fought intelligently against their better equipped foes."

Even the image of "head on" fighting is largely deceptive; the rebels were hurt most by Salvadoran air power flying above the city, a military gift from the Reagan Administration in the early 1980's. The media speaks of the continued support the U.S. provides to El Salvador's government, but draws no links between this military aid and governmental violence against unions, church groups, and human rights organizations in the country.

Any understanding of the continuing violence in El Salvador requires, among

other things, a knowledge of the long-term conflict between the peasant majority and the wealthy elites in the region.

In the early 1900's, wealthy coffee growers kept laboring peasants in a relationship of basic slavery. The expropriation of the farmer's lands and the regimentation of their labor necessitated a specialized rural police system to keep these agricultural workers unorganized and oppressed.

Nevertheless, in 1932 a massive peasant uprising rocked El Salvador. In two days the revolt was put down, and in the next few days over 30,000 people were slaughtered by the state. El Salvador's small Communist Party, led by Agustin Farabundo Marti, helped organize the uprising, known today as La Matanza. The FMLN, a coalition of five rebel groups in El Salvador today, names itself after Marti.

The wealthy landowner's fear of massive peasant uprisings continues to this day. The upper and middle classes are a small minority in El Salvador compared to the numbers of poor; in 1983 only 6 percent of the population earned over \$240 a month, an income too small to provide most basic needs.

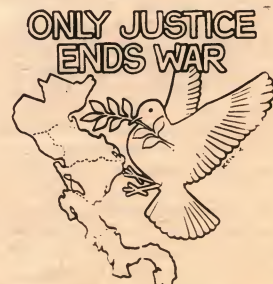
Furthermore, after the massacre a more elaborate and powerful security system was established to prevent any future uprisings. This system of National Police, National Guard, and Army is the basic security system in El Salvador today. Decades of state terror followed the mas-

sacre, and increasingly the paramilitary security forces came to dominate the army. One paramilitary organization set up in the 1960's, ORDEN, continues to terrorize the country today, though "officially banned" in 1979.

U.S. policy in the region had a direct influence on the establishment of these secret and violent paramilitary forces. The U.S. has long regarded Central America as its "southern flank." Secret wars by the U.S. "intelligence" community to direct the political destinies of Central and South American countries has been common.

But the cold war would bring a change in U.S. policy. The revolution in Cuba and Khrushchev's stated support of "wars of liberation" led the U.S. to interpret the internal affairs of El Salvador in terms of

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Letters to the Collective

Chavez calls for Grape Boycott

Dear Friend,

When I was a teenager, just after the Second World War, I had an experience which changed my life. As you read this letter, I hope it will change yours, too.

It was a typical day of winter in California's Santa Clara valley. My brother and I were working as field hands in an apricot orchard, when one day the grower handed us a bucket of strong-smelling liquid, and told us to put a little around each tree.

We started to pour the stuff, and immediately I began to feel nauseated. Since it was right after lunch, I thought it was something I'd eaten, so I walked back to our car. As I walked, I got dizzy and dizzy, and I passed out for several hours.

When I talked to other farm workers, I found out they'd had the same experience. Grower and foremen were telling us it was "medicine" we were pouring and spraying on trees, cotton fields and vineyards. But that "medicine" was giving us skin rashes, making us vomit, causing nosebleeds, and making us weak.

Many things have changed during the past forty years. But there is one aspect of farm work which has, if anything, gotten worse: the use of powerful, dangerous, toxic pesticides on the fruits and vegetables that you and I eat.

And there is conclusive evidence that you don't have to be a farm worker to be affected, seriously affected, by chemicals used in agriculture. All you have to do is eat!

This means that you and I are subjected to unknown health risks with every meal. And we're subjecting our children, and generations unborn, to those same risks.

I made a vow, as that teenager sickened by a bucket of tree "medicine," that I would make sure, some day, that neither I nor anyone else should ever again have to risk serious illness through the essential work of providing food.

The United Farm Workers of America, which I helped to organize over 25 years ago, is more than ever committed to achieving that goal: a poison-free environment for all agriculture workers—and for you and your own family.

I'm writing to you because we're in the midst of a campaign which, if successful, will represent a major breakthrough in forcing agribusiness to stop poisoning workers and consumers.

Our tactic is simple. We're asking people to not buy table grapes until the grower agree to three demands:

- The elimination of dangerous pesticides from all grape fields
- A joint testing program for poisonous substances in grapes sold in stores
- Free and fair elections for farm workers, and good faith collectives bargaining in the grape industry.

We know that, with your help, this grape boycott can work. In fact, it worked before; as you may remember, in 1970 we were successful in eliminating such deadly poisons as DDT, DDE, and

Dieldrin from every field under United Farm Workers union contract years before the federal government acted, thanks to a nationwide grape boycott.

Since then, however, the situation has grown even more serious. Thousands of farm workers are poisoned each year in the grape fields. Testing had identified residues of more than 50 chemical products on grapes sold to you in stores.

We've identified five of the most toxic substances used in the growing of table grapes. Each of these deadly poisons had a record of injuring—and in some case killing—farm workers. And each of these deadly pesticides can be present, as a residue, on the table grapes you buy:

Methyl Bromide: extremely poisonous to all forms of life, this fumigant had been responsible for more occupationally-related deaths than any other pesticide. Even non-fatal exposure can cause severe, irreversible effects on the nervous system, with permanent brain damage, or blindness.



FOR OUR FUTURE, AND FOR YOURS
BOYCOTT GRAPES!

Parathion and Phosdrin: can be rapidly fatal, producing illnesses in workers in as little as twenty minutes. Usually sprayed aerially, these poisons cause populations surrounding agricultural areas the same problems as they cause farm workers, since as much as 90% of aerially sprayed pesticides miss their target areas.

Dinoseb: poisoning at first resembling heatstroke, then cumulative doses cause extensive illnesses, including loss of vision. It is much too toxic to be used safely, so poisonous, the EPA has finally banned its use, "pending industry reaction."

Captan: 344,000 pounds are used annually on table grapes, and residue of this compound is the most frequently discovered material on grapes in stores. Not only can Captan cause cancer, it also causes birth defects and changes in body cells. It is structurally similar to Thalidomide, which caused thousands of babies in Europe to be born without arms and legs.

Not only is each of these deadly pesticides used extensively in the grapes you and I find in stores all across the country. They also have one other thing in common: each has been recommended for banning by state and federal agencies, yet they continue to be used!

It's a part of a deadly mass of pesticide poisons used annually in grape production—8,000,000 pounds each year of more than 130 chemical compounds.

The most immediate victims of these pesticides are, of course, farm workers. Studies have shown that:

- 78% of Texas farm workers surveyed had chronic skin rashes; 56% had kidney

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Administration Responds to Hermes Editorial

To The Editors:

I would like to comment briefly on the editorial on the visit of Helen Suzman that appeared in the October 12 issue of *Hermes*.

The editorial suggests that the Suzman visit was paid for by "students' tuition money". In fact, the Baldwin Fellowship is supported by a small endowment established by the Middlesex Mutual Assurance Company. Not one dime of tuition money went to Ms. Suzman.

The editorial claims that the Suzman visit was another episode in "the desperate effort to force the Trustee's insistence on investment in South Africa down the University's collective throat". Since there are now roughly 60 companies on the University's no-purchase list because of their involvement in South Africa, it seems unreasonable, indeed it is a severe distortion, to describe the University's policy as an "insistence on investment in South Africa". In any case, Ms. Suzman made it very clear that she strongly disagrees with the policy, for it is based on the presumption of corporate withdrawal from South Africa, the very position that Ms. Suzman so vehemently opposes. I believe that she called the policy "stupid".

The editorial claims that Ms. Suzman advocates "inaction". In fact, those who listened to her presentation will recall that she underscored the central importance of the continued development of the mass democratic movement in the struggle

against apartheid. In addition, Ms. Suzman's personal career has hardly been one of "inaction". To cite a very recent piece of evidence, the *New York Times* of October 19 carried an article on Walter Sisulu and two of his recently freed colleagues form the African National Congress who thanked Ms. Suzman for her work on behalf of political prisoners. I have enclosed a copy of the article.

In addition to these inaccuracies, the editorial indulges the sentiments of liberal bashing that were so much in evidence during Ms. Suzman's visit. To those of us who witnessed the wreckage of the New Left in the 1960's and early 1970's on these same shoals, this is a painful piece of *deja vu*. It amounts to a terrible failure of political memory, or curiosity, or both. But just for the record, it should be said that Helen Suzman is not the enemy; liberalism is not the enemy. Progressive movements will survive, in South Africa and elsewhere, to the degree that they can create broad bases of popular support. If we need lessons closer to home, we need look no further than the years of the Reagan administration to see exactly how much difference there is between conservative and liberal agendas and their social consequences. The left, new and otherwise, needs now what it needed in the 1960's: more vision and less radical sectarianism.

Sincerely yours,

Bro Adams

Executive Assistant to the President

The Collective Responds

Hermes is flattered to have such a knowledgeable reader in the Administration. If the Baldwin Fellowship did indeed pay for all the expenses of Suzman's visit, we stand corrected. However, Mr. Adams is no more perfect than we, and his narrow reading of the events around the Suzman speech and our editorial needs correction.

Mr. Adams first objects to the idea that the Trustees "insist" on continued investment in South Africa. Let's review the facts. For over a decade, students and faculty have urged the Trustees to divest. Trustees have floated a range of responses which are generally built around the belief that constructive engagement is a workable solution to apartheid. And yet the fiction that companies can pay taxes to Pretoria and simultaneously make life better for the black majority does not hold water; no one but the Administration accepts it, but it has become the Trustees' basic excuse for continued investment. We feel safe in summarizing this continued investment as an "insistence", since no one has offered other supportable explanations.

Suzman's solution, in fact, is most accurately placed to the "right" of the university's policy, as she implies that we should continue to invest in companies doing business in South Africa. Speaking to a South African audience, Suzman might urge action to oppose apartheid but to the rest of the world Suzman would urge "inaction." Again, we stand by our words; Suzman wants the University to do nothing.

We find the arguments for divestment to be absolutely compelling. The movements in South Africa that are effecting

change are the labor unions, the ANC, the mass democratic movement and others, all of whom call for complete divestment. There is no alternative. The Trustees have yet to qualify their dismissal of this support for total divestment. Does the administration really claim that these groups are guilty of "radical sectarianism?" Mr. Adams' final objection, that we're guilty of "liberal bashing," seems almost ironic.

Mr. Adams' status as a veteran of the "wreckage of the New Left" notwithstanding, he is wrong to imply that our agreement on the basic evil of apartheid reduces the severity of our disagreement on divestment. The Administration and the rest of the University are not united. The question of divestment is more than a divisive squabble. It goes to the heart of our view of the world and our role in it. Economic association with apartheid is wrong, and until Mr. Adams understands that, we cannot talk of wrecking the Left. The Left Mr. Adams accuses us of wrecking is a coalition that does not exist in the first place.

By far this is the most disturbing aspect of Mr. Adams' letter: its implies that South Africans' organizations, Wesleyan's student activism, and perhaps all radical politics, make for an unproductive, even destructive, fringe. His understanding is wrong; we are not a fringe; we are of a different cloth. The majority of South Africans, who support divestment, express deep political disagreement with Suzman; this includes the Africans who thanked Suzman for improving prison conditions. We also disagree with the Trustees. The Administration should, by now, understand this. Mr. Adams should re-read our editorial. ☪

Classism Flourishes at Wesleyan

by Heather Rhoads and Alexandra Ringe

Although we spend a lot of time discussing "isms" at Wesleyan (racism, sexism, homophobia, elitism, anti-Semitism...) and talking about these social diseases rearing their ugly heads on campus, we rarely talk about the classism that exists at Wesleyan both institutionally and personally.

"Classism" refers to discrimination against people who do not have as much money as the "typically" upper-middle class student: the term encompasses the assumptions that all students have enough extra dough to pay \$125 visiting dance teacher fees; to take \$360 to \$525 violin or drum lessons with music professors; to buy a car to take one of the Educational Studies Program (ESP) courses at St. Joseph's College in West Hartford; to purchase ice skates for Beginning Skating; to make a thesis film generally costing at least \$3000; and so on. (Interestingly, senior theater productions are funded by the department, but film theses are not.)

Forty-five of the classes offered to

undergraduates in the Spring 1990 Course Book list fees ranging from \$5 to \$125, courses such as ceramics (\$95), West African Dance (\$125), silversmithing (\$40), Chinese calligraphy (\$30), and rock climbing (\$60). This price range does not even include the numerous types of music lessons offered averaging over \$400 a semester per instrument—many comparable colleges offer lessons without additional cost to any music student.

In some cases, "Financial aid is available," but many of us stop reading the course description when we see the cost. Or, the idea of going through the bureaucracy to receive this extra financial aid initially turns us away. It is bad enough that Financial Aid Students have to troop up four flights of stairs in North College to reach the Office for Those of You Who Do Not Have Enough Money To Pay Tuition Now But Will Somehow Acquire the Funds Six Months After You Graduate every time they need to straighten out one of the Office's mistakes; going to departments saying "I'm poor, give me money so that I can do what everyone else can" is too much.

Wesleyan should not rid itself of the "frills" which require funds above and beyond the cost of tuition, books, food, and lodging. Dance classes, music lessons and art courses are important parts of the educational opportunities here. Instead, the University should make these equal opportunities by reappropriating funds so that extra costs to students are not necessary. Hiring the Visiting Teachers as full-time payroll faculty would be one way to do this; in the case of the music department, some of the faculty have been "visiting" for over ten years.

The Administration might respond to the suggestion of reappropriating funds (most of which is our tuition money in the first place) by claiming that there simply is not enough money to go around. Well, then, where did the \$20 million for the gym come from, pawning the Douglas Cannon? And what about the half a million dollars of frills for the inauguration?

The University could organize a focused fund drive for academics like the one for the gym; surely there are as many alums who value the arts as those who played football. If other schools in Wesleyan's league can pay for "extras," why can't Wesleyan? Oberlin, for instance, has community bikes available for student use free of charge. At Swarthmore, parties are all free. Middlebury has a phone mail system which provides every student with a phone and an answering service.

Many colleges now figure in the price of a computer in tuition costs for all students, including it in financial aid budgets. Why doesn't Wesleyan? Middlebury's individual dorms have Macintosh computer labs; Wesleyan has only five public Macs. Many students and

professors do not realize what a strain it is to write papers without a computer available in one's house or hall; the Wesleyan Computing Center is quite intimidating if you are not fluent in computer garble.

Once you do figure out Wesleyan's computer system, you realize how underfurnished and how low-funded the whole department is—more Macs are on the way, but that will only result in more people wanting to use them. On a typical day, people wanting to print out papers on a public Macintosh have to wait at least half an hour for one of the machines to open up.

Computers are not the only possessions that many students take for granted. Some students unconsciously flaunt their upper-middle class status with expensive stereo systems and large collections of CD's, the latest fashion L.L. Bean and Tweeds clothes, microwaves, televisions, answering machines, cars, trips across the country over mid-semester breaks, or semesters away or abroad. For some of us, these things are not even in the realm of possibility. Interestingly, although institutional classism has not been mentioned or even addressed by the administration, the powers-that-be are one step ahead of the student body in discussing personal classism.

This fall, one of the mandatory frosh orientation events was a sensitivity panel. There were about ten people on each panel representing a variety of "differences" including race, sexual preference and religion. One panel member spoke about Wesleyan students' tendency to assume that all of their friends have enough money to pitch in for birthday presents, to eat at expensive restaurants,

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NO MORE
USELESS EXTRA KNOWLEDGE:
NO FRILLS, PLEASE,
WE'RE NOW A COLLEGE.

*Will the Dance Department
Be the First To Go?*

Students Work to Free High Street

Alexandra Ringe

Since the Homecoming Weekend protests outside of Beta, DKE, and Psi U, Free High Street has been working on several projects related to the coeducation of the all-male housed fraternities.

We sent a letter to President Chace clearly stating our commitment to equality of opportunity for all members of the Wesleyan community, urging him to take action regarding the fraternities immediately. (See adjoining letter.) Several representatives met with him a few days after the letter was delivered. We asked him about the implementation of the Residential Life Task Force's recommendations.

Chace informed us that the end of next semester will be the end of the administration's period of "persuasion." If the fraternities haven't decided to coeducate on their own by that time, a plan to coeducate them will be ready in the fall, Chace pledged.

When asked if students could take part in the development of this plan, Chace

said no, explaining that it is a job for the administration only.

Throughout the meeting he emphasized that he is in favor of coeducation, but that he is not willing to take action before the period of "persuasion" ends. Free High Street is not satisfied with Chace's promise.

Currently, Free High Street is gathering signatures on a petition in support of coeducation. So far we have over 400 names. We will be tabling in the campus center on Thursday and Friday of this week.

We are also preparing for an open forum to be held early next semester. Representatives from both Free High Street and the Inter-Fraternity Council will comprise a panel which will field questions from the audience. The two groups will be meeting before the end of this semester to finalize the format, time, and place of the forum, as well as to get to know each other better.

November 17, 1989

Dear President Chace,

Recently, a student group has formed on campus to protest the continued existence of the four housed all-male fraternities at Wesleyan. The members of Free High Street are committed to complete equality of opportunity for all members of the Wesleyan community.

The fraternity system institutionally promotes inequality and discrimination on the basis of gender, which is specifically prohibited in the Blue Book. As an intermediary step toward achieving equal opportunity on campus, we demand the immediate coeducation of the all-male fraternity houses.

Upon your arrival to Wesleyan, you declared that you were in favor of coeducating these discriminatory institutions. You have also publicly supported the 1987 report of the Residential Life Task Force. Nevertheless, almost three years have passed since the report was issued, and there is still no apparent progress being made on the matter of coeducation.

The Administration has maintained a policy of persuasion in the hope of convincing the fraternities to coeducate. However, the fraternities and their alumni organizations remain adamantly opposed to coeducation. The policy has been largely unsuccessful in achieving tangible results.

We feel that it is now time for the Administration to tell the all-male fraternities that their existence is no longer welcome at Wesleyan. The Administration should make it clear that the financial and institutional support which the fraternities receive will be withdrawn immediately if they continue to discriminate on the basis of gender.

We request that representatives from Free High Street and the fraternities meet with the Administration to establish a plan of action for implementing the recommendations of the Residential Life Task Force. It is important that we establish a lasting and productive dialogue in order to work out the specifics of coeducation.

The coeducation of the housed fraternities will result in a better integrated campus and an enhanced sense of community at Wesleyan. Social space will be available to be used creatively and constructively by all members of the community. Our goal is that all students could feel comfortable and welcome at functions in these houses, while having an opportunity to live at these residences if desired. We hope that you share this vision of Wesleyan with us. Together, we can actively work towards an improved and egalitarian campus.

Free High Street



BILL'S OFFICE: How many students could live here?

What Johnson & Johnson is Really Doing in South Africa—And New Jersey

by Neil deMause

Johnson & Johnson, the international pharmaceutical giant that has given the world Tylenol and band-Aids, won two new distinctions last spring. On April 27th, Mobil Oil announced that it would sell its South African assets, leaving Johnson & Johnson as the largest U.S. company in South Africa in terms of sales. And just two weeks earlier, the Social Implications Subcommittee (SISC) of the Wesleyan Board of Trustees had voted to make J&J the only corporation cited by the University for its "extraordinary assistance" to Black South Africans.

As a result of that vote, J & J has come to occupy a singular niche in the school's investment policy. Unlike the 13 "non-equity" companies in Wesleyan's portfolio, which have evaded divestment by converting their South African business ties to indirect licensing and franchise agreements, Johnson and Johnson is retained by the University specifically because of its presence in South Africa.

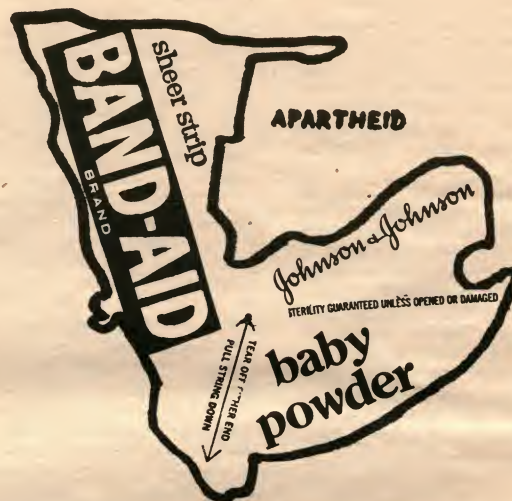
For an explanation, one must look to the investment policy adopted by Wesleyan in May of 1988. At that time, the University declared its position that all companies should withdraw from South Africa "with the exception of companies which provide extraordinary assistance to Black South Africans." Specifically, exceptions were to be permitted for companies that supply products vital to the health of blacks, contribute to "the development of the Black community," or support "Black empowerment," as well as media organizations.

The Investor Responsibility Research Center, a Washington-based firm that primarily does research on behalf of corpo-

rations and large investors, was commissioned to investigate the remaining South Africa-linked firms in Wesleyan's portfolio. Nine companies were submitted for SISC scrutiny; of these, eight were deemed unworthy of exemptions. That left Johnson and Johnson, which posed a "very difficult" decision for many members of the committee, according to SISC chair Lael Brainerd.

The key issue with J & J, as with the other companies, was how to weight corporate aid policies against the taxes paid by these companies to the white South African government. This led to "a lot of arguments," recalls assistant to the president Bro Adams: "We talked around and around the issues." Some members of the SISC argues that no amount of humanitarian programs could make up for the corporate tax money flowing to Pretoria; Adams calls this argument "never very productive," since "the policy in principle recognizes that possibility [of an override]." So the SISC—determined to find an example of "extraordinary assistance," if only because the policy said that one should exist—turned its attention to the information provided by the IRRIC.

The IRRIC's Johnson & Johnson report is notable primarily for its length; the 125 projects it lists as having received J&J funds range from a handicapped children's center to the Jaycees. Recipients of particularly large contributions, the report notes, included a nonprofit public interest law center that provides paralegal training and advice to black communities, a health clinic serving the black township of Alexandra, and health care advisors based in Durban and Johannesburg who lecture to



women's group on physiology, feminine hygiene, menstruation and baby care.

Most of the SISC members were "favorably impressed" by the picture presented of J & J, according to the committee's report to the board. J&J got high marks for both "community development" and "black empowerment," two of the criteria for exemption. Furthermore, J&J's contributions, while not exceptionally large, were "unusually creative," said the SISC.

The single most important factor in the SISC's decision, by all accounts, was Johnson and Johnson's support of the Alexandra Health Clinic, described by the IRRIC report as "the only health care facility serving Alexandra, a black township of one square mile with a population estimated between 120,000 and 140,000 people." According to Brainerd, Johnson and Johnson's provision of 10% of the clinic's operating budget was the "overriding consideration for several of the people on the committee."

In April, the SISC voted 4-2 to retain stock in Johnson & Johnson. "In the end," says Brainerd, "the decision was taken that Johnson and Johnson constitutes an exception of precisely the sort intended by Wesleyan policy."

But independent reports from South Africa tell a different story. Mark Labos, immediate past president of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU) local the represents workers at J&J's New Jersey headquarters, has met frequently with representatives of Black South African trade unions.

"Johnson and Johnson was probably a little bit better than most of them out there, but nothing to write home about," he recalls. "The consensus of the people who worked there was that as jobs in South Africa went, for Blacks, it was not a bad place to work. Which isn't saying much, when you consider if you're allowed to see your family once a month, you're considered to have a decent employer."

Upon closer scrutiny, labor activists say, corporate rhetoric about progressive practices reveals more PR than actual social change. The IRRIC report itself expresses some doubts about the efficacy of integration at J & J. Although J & J ranked near the top U.S. companies in terms of Black advancement, the report says, only 13 percent of management positions were held by blacks; the report notes that several Black management consultants criticized the company for its "sluggish" record in this area. Labos explained that most Blacks in managerial positions often are only low level clerks. And segregation in the workplace

remains; as Labor puts it, "There aren't any whites doing any questionable labor; there's a strict line."

Corporate-sponsored community projects such as health clinics do provide some aid to some black South Africans, anti-apartheid activists admit. But whether this can outweigh the support these companies give to the apartheid economy is another story. One recent study found that U.S. corporate social spending under the Sullivan Principles amounted to less than 2% of what the same corporations paid in taxes to the South African government.

Furthermore, many of these projects seem less designed for dismantling apartheid than for maintaining a good environment for corporate investment. A recent report by the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility pointed out that many "humanitarian" programs have been geared to serve the needs of the corporations themselves, providing the housing, education, and training necessary to support a stable workforce.

"An analogy can be made to the benevolent land owners of the Deep South who set up tutoring programs on their plantations—but did not abolish slavery," concluded ICCR.

Again, the IRRIC report lends credence to this conclusion, showing a preponderance of such items as "leadership training" under J & J spending. The few political groups that were funded were predominantly those led by white liberals, such as former opposition member of parliament Frederick van Zyl Slabbert.

And the report certainly does not reveal a solid understanding of the conditions of apartheid on the part of J & J. For example, the company attributed the need for its "feminine hygiene" educators to a "taboo" on discussing the subject of menstruation within black families and did not address the lack of health care and education that is a result of apartheid.

In another case, J & J lobbied government ministers for the repeal of the Group Areas Act on the basis that economic pressures would still serve to exclude Blacks from white residential areas.

Additionally, "J & J is open about the strings it attaches," writes Debbie Budlender of the Community Agency for Social Enquiry, a South Africa-based research agency. "One South African informant said that when his organization was offered money they were told that the donation would be used to justify the company's remaining in South Africa."

But most importantly, say U.S. anti-apartheid and labor activists, J & J's

New Brunswick: J&J's "Company Town"

South Africa is not the only place where J&J is being accused of supporting racist policies. At the company's international headquarters in New Brunswick, New Jersey, a coalition of anti-apartheid, labor, religious, and community activists is protesting both J & J's investments in apartheid and the company's role in what they call "racist revitalization" tactics by the city.

Valorie Caffee, president of the New Jersey Anti-Apartheid Mobilization Coalition, describes New Brunswick, a central Jersey city of about 40,000, as "a company town, owned by Johnson and Johnson." She explained that "What's essentially happened is that poorer residents and longtime business owners have been forced out of their homes and businesses in the city, and homes have been torn down. The buildings that have been put up in the area are ones that are out of the price range of the former residents; the average current resident can't afford a \$200,000 townhouse."

In all, hundreds of units of low and moderate income housing have been destroyed, and thousands of tenants displaced. At the same time the homeless population is rising as a result of this phenomenon, the city administration has announced plans to close the city's only homeless shelter for men. The co-director of the National Coalition for the Homeless has called New Brunswick's policies "among the cruelest of any in the nation."

The "revitalization" programs in New Brunswick coincided with the recent

opening of Johnson and Johnson's international corporate headquarters there. "They are looking to make the city more accessible for their own higher-paid employees," Caffee explains. "That includes providing them someplace to live—and you can't have people living in neighborhoods with poorer people."

J & J has exerted "dictatorial power" over development plans in two ways, says Caffee. J & J's private development construction company, Devco, has played a central role in the revitalization projects. Another main player, she explains, is New Brunswick Tomorrow, which "is supposed to be a citizens' oversight or review agency board that helps give its input on revitalization. The problem with New Brunswick Tomorrow is that many of the people who sit on the board are J & J officials." The pipeline runs the other way as well, according to Caffee, as several former New Brunswick mayors have gone on to become J & J executives.

"It makes us very cynical when they tell us about how much they're helping in South Africa," says Caffee. "We always say to them, you haven't helped the people here at home who need it the most. And if you really want to help the people in South Africa, you're certainly wealthy enough to give away your pharmaceutical products; it won't even make a dent in the billions you reap every year. They're the biggest pharmaceutical company in the world. So if in pulling out they might give away some products, it's certainly not going to dip into what they earn."

by Neil deMause

Coalition Fights for Diverse Concerns

by Eve Goldberg

The November Board of Trustees meeting brought to life a new student coalition. But while the coalition was new, the demands of the student groups involved were not. Each of the student groups has expressed their concerns over the years through meetings with administrators, petitions, committees, and letters.

According to Kemi Flynn, a member of WA/AASU and the Tri-Minority Council (TMC), Asian-American studies was the most pressing concern of WA/AASU. Although there has been a student-run Asian-American Studies tutorial for several years, the money set aside by former president Colin Campbell for hiring an Asian-American Studies professor has never been used because no department has been willing or able to hire an Asian

American Studies professor. For the first time this year, a professor was hired to teach Asian American Studies, but she is being paid through an outside grant which WA/AASU obtained.

"We feel if the University is committed to Asian-American students on campus, there would be a commitment to Asian-American Studies," Flynn said. "WA/AASU's and Tri Minority Council's

QUESTION AUTHORITY

concerns have been expressed in many ways to many administrators and especially to President Chace, and we don't feel our concerns have ever been taken seriously. We've been repeating ourselves semester after semester, year after year, with little result."

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Alliance (GLBA) has seen a few of their concerns acknowledged and addressed, according to Debby Cohler. Chace sent an all-campus mailing denouncing homophobia last year, and he made the opening speech for the annual Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian Awareness Days (BGLAD) last spring. In addition, a work-study position was created for the coordinators of the COLEGA workshops.

But, as Cohler remarked, "we are still without an openly gay, lesbian, or bisex-

ual) dean and without support" in the administration. "Having someone in the dean's office is really important."

Another of the GLBA demands concerns office space. "We can't serve the campus community adequately with the space we have. We have been given a closet and told to use it. We're trying to develop a library. We can't even have meetings in there because only four or five people can fit. Space can be found when the university is committed to supplying it. How committed is the University to giving GLBA adequate space? The size of the closet we have now may indicate the size of their commitment to us."

Free High Street, unlike some of the other groups involved in the coalition, has been in existence for a very short time. But, member Mike Lobel says, "In a sense Free High Street's demands are historic because Wesleyan has been co-educated for twenty years. Part of Free High Street's position is that women should have access to all areas of the university, but they are still excluded from participating in fraternities."

In 1987, the Residential Life Task Force (RLTF) issued its report recommending that fraternities should be co-educated. When he first arrived on campus, President Chace declared that he remained committed to the RLTF recommendations, but more recently he said fraternity education had been put "on the back burner." Lobel sees this as part of a larger trend in the administration of ignoring student voice.

It was for these reasons that Free High Street joined the coalition. "There's a growing feeling among students and student groups that the administration isn't listening to student voice. This is something all the groups in the coalition have in common."

The demands issued by the Southern African Action Group (SAAG) and Divest Now! are basically a revision of a statement issued by many leading anti-apartheid groups in the country. Although full divestment has been one of SAAG's demands since 1978, the addition of non-equity links (companies that officially withdrew from South Africa but maintain ties through licensing and franchising agreements) is a relatively recent development.

"The initial demand for full divestment has not changed," according to Matt Reed. "What has changed is what is

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VOICES OF DISSENT:

A determined chorus of Union activists sound their outrage outside the Board meeting at the actions of newly-elected Wesleyan Trustee Gerald Baliles, lame-duck governor of Virginia and Union buster.

Trustees Greeted with Massive Protest

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several smaller affinity groups to speed up the procedure since "stacking" speakers during discussions was becoming tedious.

The numerous student groups submitted 50 copies of their individual demands to be collated into packets for each trustee; they decided to set a time limit for response of Dec. 1. Further action will be determined after this deadline.

Several of the coalition members were concerned that the action might turn into a riot; in order to keep a nonviolent atmosphere they constructed a set of guidelines to be followed at the rally. In addition, about ten students volunteered to serve as "peace keepers" to watch for any hostile situations and to be points of communication between students and Public Safety.

This rally marked what may be a historic series of events in Wesleyan activism—not only was the agenda of the protest expanded to include many student groups who had never come together before, but the students, by reaching out to and including the struggles of Connecticut's trade unions, brought a new level of political activity to the campus. ☿



CALL FOR SUPPORT:

Rudy Buck of the East Hartford local of the International Association of Machinists, expresses solidarity with the striking United Mine Workers of America and demands the resignation of Baliles during the rally outside Downey.

Homeless Shelter Journal: Part Four

by Alexandra Ringe

This is the final installment of the "Homeless Shelter Journal" series. Instead of focusing on a particular individual as I have done in the preceding pieces, in this article I have chosen to include a mixture of people and events. (For those of you who haven't read any of the other installments, I spent last spring living and working in a shelter for homeless people in Washington, D.C., the Victor Howell House [VHH], and the following is comprised of excerpts from my journal from that time. All of the names have been changed.)



The Victor Howell House

Martin

[Martin is an alcoholic who had been living by a fire barrel with a bunch of other homeless people until a staff member offered him a spot at VHH in January.]

March 16

I visited Martin in his room today. He wasn't feeling well. He told me a bit about himself and his family. He has a son who is 20. His mother is still alive. He's actually only 52, but he seems like a grandfather to me. He informed me that he has had "more whuppin's [in his lifetime] than you can shake a fist at." He started out saying that he learned something from them, but later on he said that he just repeated the punished act again and again.

April 22

Good warm night last night. After watching Jim, Doris, Edward, and Don play spades, Edward and I played gin, and he beat me twice, but not smashingly. Then Martin returned, and Nathan, Tara, Doris, and Felicia enjoyed Martin's gifts, drunken gifts, but still gifts: a bag of crabs, a miniature chess set, and a cocktail glass. Felicia was entertained in spite of herself, for she was in one of her no-one-can-possibly-cheer-me-up-so-I-would-appreciate-it-if-you-would-all-leave-me-alone-my-head-is-down-for-a-reason mopes. Martin serenaded her with "Black Magic" which he performed with a real jazz flair. He should have been in pictures, really. At one point he looked straight at her and said, "I may not love myself but I'll always love you, Felicia." In some ways I want to see the fire barrel that draws him back and back, but in other ways I don't.

Easter

March 26

Today is Easter: making stuffing for hours; one long table and two turkeys; the trimmings didn't smooth over everyone's hurts as I had somehow hoped: Felicia was snippy, Dan wouldn't take a bath, Sherry [the subject of the second installment] was weird, and so on; conversing a bit in broken sign language (the alphabet) with Todd [a deaf resident]; hearing from Don who heard from a resident that Shelia gave Roberto (an "illegal" El Salvadoran who doesn't speak much English who seems/seemed really nice) a hand job in the living room while several other residents were sitting there and my being basically stunned; being snubbed by Michelle the haughty about the stuffing,

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WE WILL BE HEARD!

FREE HIGH STREET!

Statement of Purpose

We, the members of Free High Street, are committed to complete equality of opportunity for all members of the Wesleyan community.

The fraternity system institutionally promotes inequality and discrimination of the basis of gender, which is specifically prohibited in the Blue Book.

As an intermediary step toward achieving equal opportunity on campus, we demand the coeducation of the housed all-male fraternities: Beta Theta Pi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Psi Upsilon and Chi Psi.

Upon his arrival to Wesleyan, President Chace declared that he was in favor of coeducating these discriminatory institutions. You, the Board of Trustees have publicly endorsed the Residential Life Task Force Report of 1987 calling for coeducation of the fraternities. Nevertheless, almost three years have passed since the report was issued, and there is still no apparent progress being made on the matter of coeducation.

The coeducation of the housed fraternities will result in a better integrated campus and an enhanced sense of community at Wesleyan. Social space will be available to be used creatively and constructively by all members of the community. Our goal is that all students could feel comfortable and welcome at functions in these houses, while having an opportunity to live at these residences if desired. We hope that you share this vision of Wesleyan with us. Together, we can actively work towards an improved and egalitarian campus.

We feel that it is now time for the University to tell the all-male fraternities that their existence is no longer welcome at Wesleyan. The Board of Trustees and the Administration should make it clear that the financial and institutional support which the fraternities receive will be withdrawn immediately if they continue to discriminate on the basis of gender.



RALLYING AT DOWNEY:
Cold weather couldn't keep student from cracking smiles while voicing their demands.

UJAMAA

Ujamaa, as the representative body of African-American students on this campus, implores the Board of Trustees and the Administration to support our quest for equality within the Wesleyan community by addressing the following issues, concerns, and demands:

1. Departmentalization of the Center for Afro-American Studies

We ask that the Board of Trustees, the President, and the administration support and endorse any decision to pursue departmental status that is initiated by the faculty in the Afro-American studies program. With this recommendation, CAAS could seek to gain full respect for African American studies as an academic discipline, to be empowered with the ability to recommend tenure, and to absorb the responsibility of the hiring and retention of African American professors, knowing that the entire Wesleyan community supports such endeavors.

2. Racial Harassment

We urge the Board of Trustees to begin deliberation on the effective and immediate composition of a racial harassment policy to be amended into the Blue Book. Because racial tensions have reached an unbearable high, the implementation of this policy should seek to create and encourage greater racial and cultural sensitivity. In order to create an effective and meaningful policy, we also request that a comprehensive study of race relations on this campus be undertaken by an external source.

3. Public Safety Harassment

We believe that it is a necessity for the Board of Trustees and the administrators to



Avis Terrell '90 reads Ujamaa's demands.

Photo by Jonathan Lipkin

In 1985, the Administration amended the University's non-discrimination clause to include "sexual orientation" as a category on the basis of which the university does not discriminate. Almost five years later, gay, lesbian and bisexual members of the Wesleyan community are still treated as third-class citizens. We are not. We demand the equality and respect promised to all members of the Wesleyan community.

Specifically, the following situations must change NOW:

There is no openly gay, lesbian or bisexual person employed in the Deans' office.

The University has no effective recourse for members of the community who are harassed because they are perceived to be gay, lesbian or bisexual.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Alliance's office is inadequate to effectively serve the community. We have been given a closet and told to use it.

The University has no policy for HIV+ members of the community (employees, students, etc.)

Openly gay, lesbian, and bisexual professors are not recruited by the university. They are necessary both to provide vital role models for students, and to minimize the existing homophobia in the classroom at this institution.

Professors and students interested in researching gay, lesbian and sexuality studies lack institutional support.

Same-sex spouses of professors are denied the benefits which heterosexual couples receive from the University. ☿

persist in recommending and encouraging sensitivity workshops for Public Safety Officers. The half-life of this year's program is unacceptable, as the workshops should be a continual process. Furthermore, we ask that these mandatory sensitivity workshops be extended to faculty and administrators.

4. African American representation

We firmly recommend that the Board of Trustees encourages the pursuit and retention of African-American professors, administrators, and matriculants.

5. Financial Aid

We strongly urge Wesleyan University to hold true to its principles of education-for-all, and fully commit itself to financial assistance for all students throughout their stay at Wesleyan.

6. Student Affairs

We suggest that the Board of Trustees and the Administration endeavor to create the position of 'Director of African American Affairs'. This African American person would be a liaison between the community and the administration, would serve as a support mechanism for students, and would be generally concerned with student life for African-American student.

7. We Demand Full Disengagement from South Africa with the exception of media organizations.

As university students, members of this category at the expense of other Brothers and Sisters, we are clear about the kind of society we are trying to build, and will design our educational experience to serve our goals. ☿

Photo by Jonathan Lipkin

AJUA CAMPOS

Ajua Campos is the major support group for Latino students on campus. The organization serves as a forum in which we can air concerns about life on campus and in the community. We sponsor educational, cultural and social events with the goal of fostering a sense of pride, unity and strength in the Latino student community. We also coordinate activities in which we can share the gifts of our cultures with the rest of the Wesleyan community.

WE DEMAND:

1. Expansion of the Latin American Studies Program
 - Add introductory courses
2. The addition of Hispanic Studies
 - studies of Hispanics in America
3. Inclusion of Hispanic history and culture in the regular curriculum.
4. More Hispanic faculty members outside the Romance Language Department.
5. Active recruitment of Hispanic students
6. An inquiry into the decrease in Hispanic matriculants.
7. Translation of Wesleyan Financial Aid forms into Spanish. ☺



LINING THE SIDEWALKS:

Trustees trickled out of the meeting as protestors maintained a strong presence for four hours.

Photo by Jonathan Lipkin

SAAG AND DIVEST NOW

The Southern Africa Action Group and DIVEST NOW demand nothing short of a policy of full divestment from all corporations doing business in or with the Republic of South Africa with the exception of media organizations.

A corporation is doing business in or with the Republic of South Africa if it, its parents, or its subsidiaries:

- have direct investments in South Africa, or have entered into franchise, licensing or management agreements with or for any entity in this country; or
- are financial institutions that have not prohibited new investments, loans, credit or related services, or the renewal of existing financial agreements, including those for the purpose of trade, with any entity in this country; or
- have more than 5% of their common stock beneficially owned or controlled by a South African entity.

This demand is rooted in the fact that any company doing business on any level in or with the Republic of South Africa is supporting a blatantly racist regime. Thus, any policy allowing for investment in such corporations is founded on racist irresponsibility and is morally bankrupt. ☺

WA/AASU

For several years now, students at Wesleyan have been calling for the establishment of courses that teach the histories, cultures, and contributions of Asian Americans in the United States. Students have also been encouraging the hiring of and granting of tenure to more Asian and Asian American professors.

The administration and faculty at Wesleyan have expressed their support for these demands, yet they have not made any commitments to implementing these requests. A commitment must be made to the students.

The resurgence of racism on the Wesleyan campus threatens the stability and community of the University. Education is one of the strongest weapons against racism. The University must act now to combat racism. With this sense of urgency, WA/AASU makes the following demands:

1. The establishment of permanent Asian American studies courses in the curriculum, taught by qualified professors,

TRI—MINORITY COUNCIL

We demand:

1. Increased numbers of minority professors, administrators, and staff members.
2. Mandatory Racial Awareness Workshops for all faculty, staff, administrators, and frosh.
3. The immediate implementation of a racial harassment policy.
4. More classes addressing minority issues.
5. The full incorporation of minority experiences and issues into courses that traditionally address White, Western perspectives only (i.e. American History, Arts in America, etc.).
6. Increased efforts by the Admission Office to recruit minority applicants and matriculants.
7. Increased sensitivity to minority concerns and needs in the Financial Aid Office.
8. The development of an Intercultural Center. ☺

ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION

Wesleyan fails to see itself as part of global social and ecological systems. At a time when it is vital to realize our impact the planet, Wesleyan is contributing to the erosion of the life processes which sustain both human and non-human life on earth.

It is morally reprehensible for this institution to support waste, senseless abuse of animals, and lack of accountability for its effect on the local environment.

Therefore, we demand:

1. Ecological considerations be taken into account in the construction and maintenance of grounds and buildings, with the inclusion of student input in every step of the process.
2. An energetic commitment to energy, water, and paper conservation through
 - a. innovative systems of communication leading to the reduction of all-campus mailings;
 - b. an active program for the recycling of all "waste" in dormitories, department and administrative offices, libraries, and food service areas to facilitate participation by faculty, staff, and students;
 - c. corresponding use of recycled paper in aforementioned places
 - d. encourage conservation of heat and electricity, recognizing our dependence on fossil fuels and nuclear energy
3. substantial vegetarian and non-dairy vegetarian options at Mocon and the Campus Center to truly provide for people who choose these diets;
4. evaluation and improvement of all substandard animal laboratories in Judd Hall and the Science Center,
5. members of the Wesleyan community be informed of when and where pesticides are used, of the specific chemicals used, and of their potential health and environmental impact, and
6. a campus-wide ban on all styrofoam products.

As members of the Wesleyan Animal Rights Network, the Recycling Collective, the Environmental Interest Group, and *Earth Action Journal*, we recognize that ecological problems emerge out of social problems. Together, in coalition with other student groups, we protest the lack of substantial, if any, action taken to meet our common and specific demands.

2. An increase in the number of Asian/Asian American professors on the faculty (tenured and on tenure tracks),
3. Incentives for current faculty members to include Asian American issues, history, literature, and culture in their courses,
4. The establishment of an intercultural center that would serve as the headquarters for the Tri=Minority Council, as well as a center for other student groups,
5. A continued increase in the number of Asian/Asian American applicants, admissions, and matriculants to the University,
6. Divestment from companies doing business in South Africa, and
7. Projected dates (deadlines) when these demands will be met.

Student Coalition: Developing a Social Ecological Consciousness

by laurel stegina

"There is no such thing as a single issue struggle because we do not live single issue lives." Audre Lorde Sister Outsider

We are part of an intricate web of ecosystems which cross state and national borders. As members of a society which contributes to the simplification of these ecosystems through the depletion of ozone in the upper atmosphere, the deforestation of vast life-giving forests, the contamination of water systems in the "disposing" of toxics, and the mass extinction of species, we need to recognize our impact on the earth.

In order to create lasting changes, our exploitative "grow or die" economic system, and hierarchical forms of governance and administration have got to go. A society, like an ecosystem, thrives on diversity to strengthen the collective knowledge of the community as a whole. In order to live in balance with the cycles of "nature", we must create a civil society in which all of its members have the opportunity to participate fully.

The ecology movement has been appropriately criticized since its onset in the late '60s for being a predominately white, male-dominated movement.

Like women in the peace movement and the Civil Rights Movement, women at the start of the ecology movement saw contradictions between their vision of a society based on egalitarian principles

and the process they were using to get there. They were demanding respect for the earth and all its inhabitants, but they witnessed inequality within their own movement. Women were continually getting stuck with the organization's paper pushing while men made the elaborate speeches, serving the refreshments while men did the major decision-making, and mediating conflicts while men masturbated their egos.

The ecology groups which formed along feminist principles in the '70s (i.e. the Clamshell Alliance), like many strains of the women's movement, found that the environmentalists' agenda did not speak to the immediate needs of Blacks, Hispanics, and Asian-American.

Many "environmental" organizations (i.e. Greenpeace, PIRG, Sierra Club) focus on the preservation and conservation of wilderness and species, waste disposal, production of toxics, reduction of pollution, global warming... without making the connection between the domination of "nature" and other social problems such as the domination of "woman" by "man;" "Blacks" (Hispanics/Asians/Native Americans) by "white;" economically "poor" by "rich."

"Environmentalism" hasn't even come close to addressing the concerns of the lesbian/gay communities. In fact, "radical" eco-organizations have inadvertently attacked these communities. A few vocal Earth Firsters and "deep ecologists" have hailed AIDS as a solution to "overpopulation" without recognizing the social stigma associated with the virus.

How can we seriously address planetary overpopulation as a problem when its implementation would serve to benefit the ruling elite at the expense of the already oppressed? Predominantly poor women, women of color, and physically-challenged women everywhere are forcibly being sterilized; young and economically poor women are continually denied free

and safe abortions on demand. People are starving, not because there are too many people, but because of the overproduction and overconsumption benefitting the upper classes in "advanced" countries.

The movement for ecological stability should not disempower lesbians fighting for their right to adopt a children; it should not celebrate the loss of human life due to famine in Sudan as solution to overpopulation; it should not mobilize against the workers in a nuclear power plant. An ecological movement should not embrace an antihumanist philosophy. We share a common oppressor in a system of hierarchies known fondly as "the patriarchy."

The ecology movement has not entirely failed to address broader-based concerns, however. Communities are organizing under the auspices of "the Greens," setting their own agendas, and working on projects specific to their area. A group of people on the Lower East Side of New York City, for example, constructed a windmill in the 1970's as a response to the energy crisis. Enough electricity was generated to sustain the community. In fact, they created a surplus of energy which they forced Con Edison to buy from them under the law.

The connections between these struggles for social justice and ecological security exist on a much more than an abstract level. People who consider themselves "ecologically-aware" should also become "socially-aware". Although we can simplify our ecosystems drastically, it is arrogant to believe that humanity has the ability to kill Mother Earth. She will persevere. However, it would be possible to dominate or annihilate other human beings and species in the process of "saving the planet."

Globally, multi-national corporations (MNC's) have contributed to the destruction of subsistence agriculture in a number of "Third World" countries. In some countries, MNC's are only hiring women

who have "consented" to sterilization in order to cultivate cash crops and fatten factory profits.

Nationally, the U.S. Government is systematically wiping out the remaining Native American populations. Forty-seven percent of all Native American women are unable to become pregnant due to surgical procedures or environmental factors. Nuclear weapons are being tested and radioactive waste is being disposed on reservations; U.S. citizenship is being strategically denied when Native Americans attempt to bring a grievance to trial. At the same time their sovereignty is being refused when trying to keep their rights to land.

Shit happens. It happens all over the world. And it happens on this campus. If you haven't noticed it for yourself, check out recent "Letters to the Editor" in the *Argus* and the *Ankh*. The student coalition is currently developing at Wesleyan to give student voice a punch in the setting of priorities for this institution. It is giving many students who are active in different parts of the struggle for social justice and ecological security a chance to hear each other's concerns in a way which we have never done before.

By uniting into a coalition, we are taking each other's concerns on as our own concerns. Perhaps just as important as our demands to the Trustees is the process of working together to bring about this change. ☸

Save WestCo

continued from page 1

sees it as a symbol of the drug problems that the school is fighting. As Andrew Berman, WestCo's Head Resident, points out, "They're blaming us for our history, without looking at the current reality."

The current reality is that West College is a significant part of the Wesleyan community. As written in a statement of support presented to a resident staff meeting, it holds such social and cultural events as coffeehouses, parties and poetry readings, all of which are open to all students. WestCo is also an important housing opportunity; it bases its existence on the ideals of altruism and tolerance.

The letter of support, which was signed by 32 of the 33 resident staff members present at the meeting, states, "[WestCo] has traditionally provided and proved a commitment to the maintenance of its housing and events as spaces comfortable to all, especially groups often marginalized or excluded even at Wesleyan, such as women, minorities, and gays and lesbians. We feel its commitment to providing cultural and social events and an accessible community benefit residents and non-residents alike. The existence of priority housing dormitories at Wesleyan such as West and East Colleges greatly facilitates the creation of communities within the greater campus community at Wesleyan, while adding to the greater campus life as well."

Hundreds of students also displayed their concern for WestCo's situation by signing a similar petition designed to "Save WestCo." Fifteen hundred signatures were gathered during a three-day tabling effort at the campus center.

This enormous show of support demonstrates that the students at Wesleyan recognize the significance of WestCo as a respected community and as a valued institution on campus. ☸

Student Summit

continued from page 2

the Soviet and U.S. students. He also observed that "the friendships that came out of the Summit can undermine the political adversity" between the two countries.

Students for World Peace also organized a "Peace Boogie" party, which took place on Saturday night to celebrate the activities of the weekend and raise money to cover some of the expenses of the weekend.

The party was originally scheduled to take place at West College, but the location had to be changed to Psi U when students encountered problems in securing signatures for a liquor license. According to party organizer Michael Lowe, the Middletown Fire Marshall refused to sign the necessary forms when he learned that the party was to take place at West Co. "He told us 'I won't grant anything to that shithole,'" said Lowe. "He was not very supportive."

It is not clear whether the Fire Marshall's response was influenced by the negative press concerning Duke Day which has besieged Wesleyan in the past weeks. Nevertheless, the party did take place and it closed out an exciting but exhausting day on an upbeat note.

Alexander Smirnov of Leningrad, also an exchange student at Wesleyan, said that he felt the Summit was an exercising of Perestroika and Glasnost, the programs



Mikhail Kalinichev and Elena Reshetnikova discuss the final declaration

of economic restructuring and openness that have spread through Soviet society in the past several years. "Part of Perestroika is to teach students to be active, to have their own minds, and to respect the ideas of other people. This Summit taught us how to cooperate and how to find a common language."

Soviet and U.S. student organizers hope to make the Summit an annual

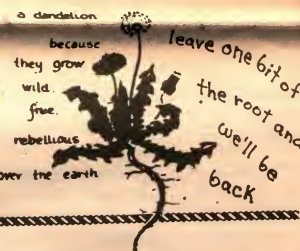


Photo by Miriam Sushman

occurrence in each country. The first and last such Summit meeting allegedly took place in Moscow in 1974. "I hope that this will be a tradition," said Kalinichev after the Summit. "When I hear about the next meeting, I will be happy. I will remember our first meeting of friendship and trust, and I will wish [the participants] luck in continuing along our way."

Radicalizing for Reproductive Rights

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turned, the very question of abortion will be returned to the states. So NOW's new rallying cry was "elect pro-choice officials!" Not a bad thing to say, nor a bad time to say it.

Just five days before the mobilization, two pro-choice governors were elected, James Florio (D-N.J.) and Douglas Wilder (D-VA). Both men had been involved in campaigns where issues of abortion rights were heavily discussed, and in which it was perceived that their opponents were losing votes because of anti-choice stances.

Also, Congress just passed two pro-choice bills: one provides Medicaid funding of abortions for victims of rape and incest (we can't blame them for getting into those situations), the other provides funding for all women seeking abortion services who are eligible for Medicaid in the District of Columbia. (DC is not a state, so its budget must be approved by the House of Representatives.)

Of course Bush vetoed both bills, but

they still represent somewhat of a milestone. The Rape/incest Medicaid bill had been voted down by the House for the past eight straight years.

So having all the politicians, including Senators Alan Cranston (D-CA), Bob Packwood (R-OR) and Connecticut's own Rep. Sam Gejdenson, get up and call for pro-choice voters to make themselves heard was not a bad thing. Thirty-six gubernatorial elections will be held in 1990, as well as for most state legislators, the entire House of Representatives and one third of the U.S. Senate. This election has proved that if candidates think having a pro-choice stance will get them elected, they will advocate abortion rights.

Take for example the situation in Illinois. One of the gubernatorial candidates is a very pro-choice woman. The other frontrunner is State Attorney General Neil Hartigan, a man who has previously been very anti-choice.

Hartigan is in fact responsible for the abortion case concerning clinic specifica-



photo by heather rhoads

WESLEYAN'S SPOT ON THE HILL:

Wesleyans and affiliates could easily spot the gang at the Nov. 12 Mobilization for Women's Lives in DC.



tions which was scheduled to be heard by the Supreme Court this term. If the Court upheld this case, most clinics in Illinois would be forced to shut down due to insufficient space to accommodate unnecessary hospital equipment.

About 10 days after the Nov. 12 rallies, Hartigan announced that he had worked out a deal with the clinics who were challenging the state statute, and that the Illinois law is being withdrawn from the books. So now the Supreme Court has only two chances to strip women of their reproductive rights. And suddenly, Hartigan is claiming to have been "pro-choice" all along.

The women's movement should not allow itself to be lulled into a false sense of security by these small victories. NOW did not create an agenda on Nov. 12; they simply seized onto a preexisting one. All of the issues discussed by the speakers that day were ones which had been previously covered in the media. The talk about elective action merely echoed what was happening across the country.

This time, speakers did mention the issue of low-income women's inability to obtain legal abortions due to lack of Medicaid funding in most states, but Congress also had debated this very subject a few weeks earlier.

If NOW President Molly Yard truly wants to become a leader in the abortion

rights movement, as these mobilizations would indicate, she should take the initiative in proposing innovative tactics and demands, not just follow the mood of the nation. While elective victories are important, it should be understood that women's complete control over their own bodies will only become a reality with the radicalization of the entire women's movement and the call for action.

Rather than pleading for legislative guarantees for women's unrestricted right to safe, legal and funded abortion, the women's movement must call for the depoliticization of reproductive rights.

Other medical procedures are not legislated; they are merely regulated. The same should be true of all reproductive health procedures.

The election of pro-choice officials is a good thing and should be encouraged, but if it becomes the only strategy, then the "reproductive rights" movement is setting itself up for a fall just like it did in 1973. ■

OPERATION RESCUE BLOCK:

About 500 pro-choice activists got out of bed early the day before the Mobilization to protest "Operation Rescue" clinic blocks in DC. Here, at Hillcrest, like most other clinics in the city, pro-choicers outnumbered antis by a landslide.

The police were also out in full force, giving the day an air of militancy. Anti-choice protesters have adopted similar civil disobedience tactics as used in the '60's by chaining themselves to clinic doors to "save the babies."



photo by heather rhoads

Hermes, November 30, page 11



photo by Neil Demause

WATCH OUT!

Diane Curtis of the Women's Health Action Mobilization (WHAM), a NYC Reproductive Rights Action group, narrowly misses an anti-choice assault during an impromptu debate at 21st and Constitution Nov. 12.



SRC Update

Reproductive rights week began after the November 12th Mobilization for Women's Lives. Over 400 Wesleyan students travelled down to Washington D.C. for the rally.

During reproductive rights week, Students for Reproductive Choice (SRC) sponsored two speakers, Ninea Baehr and Karen Mulhauser. Baehr, a long-time abortion rights activist, spoke on the history of the radical abortion rights movement. She also brought a new film about the movement's history and speculums for the students. Mulhauser, the former executive director of the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL), spoke on the history of reproductive rights in the US. Also that week, GLBA facilitated a workshop on the connections between reproductive and gay/lesbian/bisexual rights. They discussed why the terminology and underlying issues in the two movements are alike, and pointed out

the need for greater tolerance and respect to achieve common goals.

Future Events

On Thursday, December 7th, at 7 pm in PAC 001, Enid Rey of the Hispanic Women's Council will hold a workshop on reproductive rights issues for women of color. She will discuss issues often ignored by the reproductive rights movement, such as sterilization abuse and economically disadvantaged women who cannot afford abortions.

On Sunday, February 4th, the Connecticut March for Women's Lives will begin from the State Capitol Grounds in Hartford. This is our most important event all year, and we need you to be there! The legislature opens on February 7th, and they will remember a show of massive support for safe, legal, and funded abortion. SRC will run school buses to the march at about \$4 a seat.



truer than strange

Byte This!

"Look up the word 'man' in the AppleWorks GS software thesaurus and you'll find synonyms aplenty: 'Member of the human race, human, being, body, individual, life, mortal, party, person, personage, soul, mankind, flesh, humanity, sonage, soul, mortality...' But, search for humankind, mortality and you'll find a word to replace 'woman' and you'll find the offerings have been, well, pared down a bit: 'Female partner in a marriage; wife, lady, Mrs.'"

—Ms. September 1989

What a Nice Guy

Entrepreneur Dennis Cortese recently opened a topless truck stop/donut shop/adult bookstore called "Debbie Duz Donuts" in Fort Collins, CO. said Cortese, responding to charges of exploitation, "That's ridiculous. Women come in and say, 'I wanna work. I can't make a penny in town, and my boyfriend left me.' You feel so sorry for them...It's almost pathetic. But gosh, I'll give 'em a job."

—Ms.1989



Desert Lovers

From a report (in the *San Diego Union*) on the annual *Soldier of Fortune* convention in Nevada: "The biggest attraction of all was Saturday's firepower demonstration. 'That's when we get about ten different machine guns,' said John Coleman, a senior editor at *Soldier of Fortune* magazine. 'Then we just shoot the s--- out of the desert and blow up what's left. It's really popular.'"

—The Progressive, December 1989



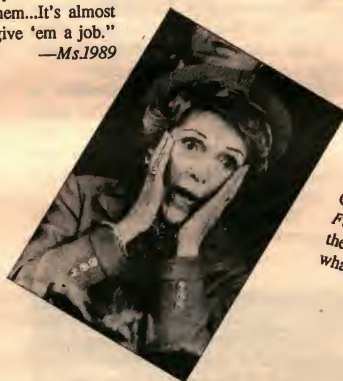
"Careful, honey, he's anti-choice."

Bait-a-Girl

How'd ya like to be a Beta Sweetheart,
How'd ya like to wear a Beta pin,
How'd ya like to gaze upon the diamond,
Gem a gem that ne'er grows dim,

How'd ya like to share a Beta friendship,
Friendship that will last through life,
How'd ya like to love a Beta always,
And how'd ya like to be a Beta wife.

—From Beta Tunes



"I have calculated the odds that Gorbachev is actually the Antichrist. The odds are 860,609,175,188,282,100 to 1," says Robert W. Faid, author of *Gorbachev! Has the Real Antichrist Come?*

—Harper's January 1989

HOMO vs. HETERO

WHICH IS BETTER?



EAT THE RICH!

Batterers included

"Just what society needs—a toy for wife abusers with a sense of humor," says Ms. on the "Wife Wacker", a sponge bat with the words "wife wacker" across one side, sold by the San Francisco Gift Co. in Canada for \$2.99

—Ms. October 1989

And the Correct Answer is...

From the CIA Entrance Examination, a study guide for applicants:

8. Do you find people with different cultural habits, customs, values, etc. strange?

- a. Yes
- b. No

9. Would you like to live in a war zone?

- a. Yes
- b. No

11. Would you like to live in an area that has no running water, no toilet facilities, or where you were forced to spend extended periods in a tent?

- a. Yes
- b. No

—Harper's Magazine January 1989

Grapes

continued from page 4

and liver abnormalities; and 54% suffered from chest cavity problems.

- The miscarriage rate for female farm workers is seven times than national average.

- More than 300,000 farm workers are made ill every year through pesticide exposure with grape workers suffering over half of all reported acute pesticide-related illnesses in California.

But you don't have to be a farm worker to be affected by the pesticides used in agricultural production.

As a consumer, you should know:

- Pesticides are now thought responsible for groundwater contamination in 23 states; groundwater provides 50% of our country's drinking water supply.

- Federal and State pesticide monitoring programs are both flawed and severely inadequate.

- In the 1988 harvest season and estimated 380 million pounds of grapes were harvested in Kern County, California a major grape growing area. Of these 380

million pounds of grapes only 22 samples taken were taken from the fields.

- The samples taken during the actual grape harvest are limited to usually two and maybe three of the hundreds of toxic pesticide being applied to grapes.

Outrageous? Of course it is. And I can't blame you if, like most people, you've felt helpless to do anything about it.

But now, there is something you can do! Something so powerful and effective that if you do it along with us, together we can get those poisons out of our food—permanently!

The first step is simple. Stop buying table grapes! And if you see them in a friends house, talk about what you've read in this letter: the poisons used on growing grapes, their serious health effects, and the United Farm Workers' boycott.

Then you can further help our effort to get poisons out of the fields and food by asking your supermarket not to promote grapes through advertisements, sales or special displays.

We consider this campaign so important that we have dispatched our entire union leadership to key cities coast to

coast—not just for a few days, but for as long as it takes to make consumers, stores, and distributors aware that we mean business.

I'm sure I don't have to tell you that farm workers are the poorest workers in America. Our members not only do the most dangerous work in the country; they also receive the lowest wages. Therefore, we have no money to spare for even such vital activities as organizing this nationwide grape boycott.

Farm workers and their families have left their home to faraway cities to tell the story of the grape boycott. A donation of as little as \$25 will support a farm worker boycott for a day. For \$30, we can print enough materials in our own print shop to leaflet and entire neighborhood. Your \$40 donation means food and travel for a volunteer for one week... \$100 will provide housing for a farm worker family for one week.

Such amounts are little enough to give, I think you'll agree, to assure our peace of mind about what we eat. And little enough to give so that farm workers will no longer have to suffer as I did in those apricot orchards 40 years ago—and we can prevent thousands of poisonings,

deformities and tragically premature deaths.

Now it's up to you. For our future... and yours! For our children... and for your children: please boycott grapes. And send as generous a donation as you can afford, today.

Sincerely,

Cesar Chavez, President

United Farm Workers of America

P.O. Box 62

Keene, CA 93531-9989

P.S. I am not asking you to give up wine and raisins. Nor am I asking you to support a large administration, because all of us on the union's staff, including myself, still receive only basic subsistence and \$10 per week.

Can we count on you to support pesticide-free food by sending as generous a donation as you can afford... today? Please make checks payable to United Farm Workers. Your financial support is urgently needed! C.C.

P.P.S. California Grapes are now being harvested. The will be in the stores continuously from now until late December. PLEASE BOYCOTT GRAPES! ☸

Hermes Bulletin Board

NOVEMBER

Thursday, November 30: The Black Women's Discussion Group will meet in Nicholson Lounge on at 9:00 p.m. Bring junk food!

Thursday, November 30: Central American Network will meet at 9:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Campus Center.

DECEMBER

December: series of actions to stop the Seabrook Nuke, including sit-ins and mass actions at the New Hampshire Governor's office. sponsored by the Clamshell Alliance. For more info, call (603)224-4163.

Friday, December 1: There will be a benefit party at Eclectic for medical aid for El Salvador. Sponsored by Central America Network.

Friday December 1 & Saturday, December 2: Combination Platter. An evening of two new works. "Tonal Illuminations on Women of Color", senior Theater thesis by Temina Davar and "Partners in Mind: Tactile Terrain", senior dance thesis by Grace Lee. 8pm World Music Hall, \$1.

Saturday December 2: Connecticut River Cleanup, 1-4pm. meet at the Campus Center at 1. If you want to come later, there will be a table by the Wescrow Boat-house. Sponsored by Environmental Interest Group. Call Katie (638-0528) for more info.

Saturday, December 2: Protest Connecticut Senator Dodd's Funding of Death Squad Government in El Salvador. 2-7pm, East Haddam (Dodd's hometown). Sponsored by Pledge of Resistance. Call Dori (349-9754), Marge (777-3460), or Lynn (846-4250) for more info.

Monday, December 4: "Huey Newton and the Panthers. . . The Early Years . . . And What's Up Today", a discussion led by Carl Dix at Revolution Books at 7:30. Call (212) 691-3345 for info.

Monday, December 4: Henry Abelow will speak on "Aids as Ideology", 8pm. Russell House

Tuesday, December 5: Todd Gitlin will speak on "News and the Eclipse of Politics", 8pm Russell House.

Friday, December 8: Tri-Minority Council Open Meeting, 4:30pm at Downey.

Saturday, December 9: Network of Alternative Student Press (NASP) gathering beginning 10 am, Student Union Building, SUNY Stonybrook. Co-hosted by the Red Balloon Collective/Magazine and Blackworld student newspaper. To reserve spot and for more info, call Mitchel Cohen, (516)634-2595 (Tues-Fri), (718)449-0037 (Sat-Mon).

El Salvador

continued from page 3

the larger East-West conflict. All opposition groups were seen as Communist threats to U.S. security, regardless of the true nature of the conflict. The U.S. began to organize and train the various police forces in El Salvador to fight these "insurgents."

The United States doctrine of counter-insurgency would further align the U.S. with local military establishments and the rich landowners in terrorizing the people of Central America. The counter-insurgency doctrine will be discussed next time. ☿



Coalition

continued from page 7

meant by full divestment. It has become clear that disinvestment [of companies from South Africa] alone doesn't address the depth of the problems. Therefore the evolved position calls for full 'disengagement' from South Africa. Wesleyan's divestment movement was one of the first and continues to be one of the only university divestment movements to address this depth."

While Reed feels Wesleyan has in recent years seen much progress in divestment from companies with direct ties to South Africa, SAAG has found that "without strong student input, progress towards morally responsible policies is non-existent. Since the administration has continued to limit student involvement in the decision-making process, it was clear that the severity of the moment

Thursday, December 14: Brian Glick will speak on his new book "War At Home: Covert Action Against U.S. Activists and What We Can Do About" at Revolution Books at 7:00.

Monday, January 15: Martin Luther King's Birthday! "We who engage in nonviolent direct action are not the creators of tension. We merely bring to the surface the hidden tension that is already alive. We bring it out in the open where it can be seen and dealt with... injustice must likewise be exposed with all of the tension its exposing creates, to the light of human conscience and the air of national opinion before it can be cured..."—Martin Luther King, Letter from a Birmingham City Jail, 1963

Major nonviolent civil disobedience at New Hampshire State House to STOP THE SEABROOK NUKE! Organized by the Clamshell Alliance. For more information call the Clamshell office (603)224-4163

MISC

"Prisoners of Purpose: A peacemakers' guide to jails and prisons", a new book is available by writing to Nukewatch, P.O. Box 2658, Madison, WI 53701.

Artists of all media are sought by the Pump House Gallery, managed by the City of Hartford's Office of Cultural Affairs to submit works which they have created in response to their readings on The Amistad Case. Call 722-6440 for information.

Interested in Anarchist Research? Write for more details to T.V. Cahill, B.A.R., Dept. of Politics, University of Lancaster, Lancaster LA1 4YL.

"There's More to Our Resistance Than Picket Lines and CD": Kelley and Tia are seeking submissions for a forthcoming book of social change tactics, actions and demos. Send submissions or write for more info to Alternative Acts Unlimited, P.O. Box 21559, Washington, D.C. 20009.

The 1990 War Resisters League Peace Calendar, "Hauling Up Morning: Poetry and Images of Latin America," is now available for order. Call (212) 228-0450 to order.

DID YOU KNOW? ENGLISH AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE BILL ELIMINATES THE BILINGUAL BALLOT, DENIES BILINGUAL EDUCATION, AND ELIMINATES THE USE OF TRANSLATORS IN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

Tell Someone. Call Wes*SAFE at 346-4488 from 7 pm to 7 am, seven days a week. We can help you deal with

issues of sexual harassment, assault, and coercion. We are student-run, state-certified, and completely confidential.

The Women's Center is open 10 am-12 pm on Mon. and Wed., 12-3 pm on Tues. and Thurs. Come hang out, use the library, or just case the joint. 287 High St.

GLBA Office Hours: Stop by the basement of the housing office Tuesdays from 4-5, Wednesdays from 4:30-5:30pm, or Thursdays from 10-11 am. Buy a t-shirt or a button, browse through our books and periodicals or just chat. 190 High St. or call Ext. 2712

GROUPS

Students for Reproductive Choice meets every Monday at 7 pm in the Campus Center basement.

Environmental Interest Group meets Mondays at 9 pm in the Campus Center meeting rooms.

The Women's Center Collective meets every Tuesday, 12 noon at the Women's Center (287 High St.) to plan upcoming events. Bring your lunch and enjoy good company!

How can you help solve the garbage crisis at Wesleyan? Come to the Recycling Collective Meetings that take place every Tuesday at 8 pm in Andrus Lounge (between Foss 3 and 4).

Bi-Focal, a discussion group for Bisexual men and women, meets every Tuesday at 10 pm in the COPUS office (2nd floor housing office, 190 High St.).

Gay, Lesbian Bisexual Alliance meets Wednesdays at 10pm at the second floor of the Housing Office.

Society Organized Against Racism meets Wednesdays at 9 pm in the Center for Afro-American Studies (CAAS) lounge, corner of High and Washington St.

Gay, Bisexual and Questioning Men (GBQ) meets Thursdays at 10 pm in the Grotto of Alpha Delta.

Wesleyan Asian/Asian American Student Union (WA/AASU) meets Thursdays at 10 pm in A/AA house, 107 High St. Call 638-0223 for more info.

Eating Awareness Support Group meets every Thursday at 10 pm in the Women's Center (287 High St.).

Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning Women (LBQ) meets every Friday at 7:30 in the Women's Center, 287 High St.

demanding an organized response."

While each of the groups has a separate agenda, all seem optimistic about the prospect of continued work together. Calling the student coalition "the best news that's hit Wes in a long time," Debby Cohler said, "I personally feel that coalitions of this sort are vital for students to accomplish anything given the current climate at this university. We need to coalesce to make student voices heard and to stop the fragmentation of the student body."

Mike Lobel concurred. "The coalition is a really positive step among students. It's one of the first times students have come together in such an organized manner. It's a positive step to say 'OK, now we're going to work together as a group.' We can't afford to labor alone anymore."

Despite this optimism, students see a hard road ahead. Kemi Flynn said, "Although I feel that our presentation to the trustees was effective, I'm waiting to see what the December first deadline will bring." ☿

[Due to constraints of deadlines and missed phone calls I was unable to interview members of the Environmental Coalition, Ajua-Campos, and Ujamaa.]



Editorial

This Friday, December 1, is the deadline set by the student coalition for the Board of Trustees' response to its demands.

The Trustees' response (or non-response) will clearly indicate to the whole campus the extent of their respect and sensitivity to the student population at Wesleyan. We will see if the Trustees are willing to work with the wider university community to plot a course forward or instead cling to a narrow ideological vision of Wesleyan's future which they will continue to impose on us.

When President Chace first came to Wesleyan he lamented our lack of an identity. Recent events show that students have quite a specific view of Wesleyan's identity and future role as a university.

The following statement provides a vision of Wesleyan and of the education it should provide which differs significantly from that put forth by President Chace in his inaugural address. It is a base which needs further development. We urge all students and faculty to actively contribute to this process to ensure that all voices are heard. Whatever the trustees' response, we, the Wesleyan community, must be ready to respond and to continue to pursue our goals. ♪ ♪

Student Coalition Cover Letter

read to the Board of Trustees on Nov. 18, 1989

THIS IS NOT a disruption or an intrusion, but rather a final opportunity for the trustees to truly understand, explore and address the common concerns of the Wesleyan community. We are not individuals, though we have personal interests; we are not isolated groups, though various student unions have chosen to voice their concerns; and we are not societal or political aberrations or minorities, for as we stand today, we compose a majority of the opinions and interests on this campus; we are the multi-faceted, multi-cultural and multi-interested community that 'diversity university' flaunts so pompously in its brochures.

We are students of all races, all creeds, both women and men, straight, gay, lesbian, and bisexual, who have come here to express our concerns about the quality of life at Wesleyan, the improvements that must be made to enhance this life, and most importantly, the hopes we have for future matriculants and inhabitants at Wesleyan.

We have repeatedly offered ourselves as sources of information for the community; living resources which the administration can utilize. We are afforded, however, only a token, if any, role in the decision making process. We have repeatedly laid out for you specifically what we deem the most basic necessities for the survival and security of the community as a whole. We have enumerated your responsibilities as an institution with a commitment to the socialization of young men and women; remembering that we chose to attend for the very reason that your reputation is founded on that commitment. We spoke, and found you paralyzed by a system which screeches to a grinding halt when pushed to act swiftly in the interest of its ideals.

The representatives of the community are present in response to this apparent paralysis in effort to make it clear once again, that Wesleyan University is failing in its resolve to provide the members of its community with an education having its roots in the responsiveness of one woman or man to another.

In order to rectify this stagnation and lack of communication, WE DEMAND THE FOLLOWING:

- The recruitment and retention of minority, female and gay, lesbian or bisexual faculty and administration.
- Mandatory sensitivity workshops concerning issues of race, gender, and sexuality for all students, faculty, administration and staff.
- A substantial harassment policy for issues concerning race, gender, and sexuality.
- A substantial student role in the creation of an integrated curriculum that includes perspectives on race, gender, and sexuality.
- Student participation in all levels of governance. Coeducation of the all-male housed fraternities.
- Divestment from all companies with equity or non-equity ties to South Africa with the exception of the media.
- A significant commitment to the provision and sustenance of financial aid to students; throughout their college careers.
- Student office space.

Silence and passive acceptance are obsolete and we, the true Wesleyan community, will take up this battle against racism, sexism, and homophobia until "Diversity University" begins to hold true to its rhetoric.

By December 1st, 1989, we charge you with the responsibility of developing and communicating a timetable delineating the dates that each of our demands will be met. ♪

HERMES

c/o WSA, Wesleyan University
Middletown, CT 06457

November 30, 1989, Volume XXVII, Number 4

Radical Student Notes
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